

42
A
P A P E R

RECEIVED
BY HIS MAJESTY

from the Committee of both

HOUSES, upon the
Eight of *Aprill*.

WITH
HIS MAJESTIES

Gracious Message to both Houses in
Answer to the same.

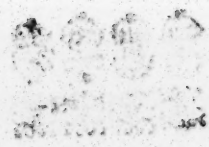


SHREWSBURY,
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the
Kings most Excellent Majestic: And by the
Assignes of JOHN BILL. 1643.

of both

with

Charles M. ...
... in ...



ST. ...

... by ...
...
...

13
APRILL, 8. 1643.

BY Instructions this day received from both Houses of Parliament, we humbly conceive, that we are to acquaint Your Majestie, That they have taken into consideration Your Majesties Answer to their Reasons concerning the Cessation, wherein there are divers Expressions which will occasion particular Replies, which at this time they desire to decline, Their wishes and endeavours being earnestly bent upon the obtaining a speedy Peace, for which Cause they do not think good to consume any more of the time allowed for the Treaty in any further debates upon the Cessation, concerning which they finde Your Majesties Expressions so doubtfull, that it cannot be suddenly or easily resolved, and the remainder of the time for the whole Treaty, being but seven dayes, if the Cessation were presently agreed, it would not yeeld any considerable advantage to the Kingdom.

Wherefore we are required to desire Your Majestie to give a speedy and Positive Answer to the

first Proposition concerning the Dilbanding, That
so Your Subjects may not onely have a shadow of
Peace, in a short time of Cessation, but the substance
of it in such manner as may be a perpetuall Blessing
to them, by freeing the Kingdom from those miser-
able effects of War, the effusion of English Blood,
and desolation of many parts of the Land.

Northumberland.

Jo. Holland.

Wil. Armine.

Wil. Perpont.

B. Whitelocke.

His

His *MAJESTIES* Gracious Message
to both Houses, in Answer to the for going
P A P E R.

If the Committee, according to his Majesties Desire, had had but Power to agree in the wording of Expressions in the Articles of Cessation, his Majesties (which are as cleer as the matter would beare, and as he could make them) had not appeared so doubtfull to any, but that the Cessation might have been suddenly and speedily resolved, and that long before this time. And if the Expressions of both Houses in their Reasons had not necessitated his Majestie in his own Defence, to give such Answers as could not upon those points deliver Truth without some shew of sharpnesse, no Expression of that kinde in his Majesties Answer had given any Pretence for the rejection of, or refusing so much as to Treat upon the Cessation, which (though it were at present for no long time) yet was from the day named by themselves the 25. of March, whereas his Majestie first moved for a Cessation and Treaty without any Limitation at all in the time of either; and his Majestie was most ready to have enlarged the time (so that in the mean while the point of Quarters might be so

A 3

settled,

settled, as that his Armies might subsist) and which might have been (if they had pleased) a very good and promising Earnest and Fore-runner of that great Blessing of Peace; for the obtaining of which the wishes and endeavours of all good men being earnestly bent, a further debate in order to so great a benefit did not deserve to be stiled a Consumption of time. And his Majestie cannot but conceive himself to be in a strange Condition, if the Doubtfulnesse of Expressions, (which must allwayes be whilst the Treaty is at such a Distance, and power is denyed to those upon the place to help to cleer and explain) Or his necessary Replying to Charges laid upon him, (that he might not seem to acknowledge what was so charged) Or the limitation of the time of seven dayes for the Treaty (which was not limited by his Majestie, who ever desired to have avoyded that and other Limitations, which have given great interruptions to it) should be as well beleev'd to be the Grounds, as they are made the Arguments of the Rejection of that, which (next to Peace it self) his Majestie above all things most desires to see agreed and settled, and which his Majestie hopes (if it may be yet agreed on) will give his People such a Taste of such a Blessing, that after a short time of consideration, and comparing of their severall Conditions in War and Peace, and what should
move

move them to suffer so much by a Change, they will not think those their Friends that shall force them to it, or be themselves ready to contribute to the renewing of their former Miseries, without some greater evidence of Necessity then can appeare to them, When they shall have seen (as they shall see, if this Treaty be suffered to proceed) that his Majestie neither askes nor denies any thing, but what not only according to Law he may, but what in Honour and Care of his People he is obliged to aske or deny. And this alone (wh'ch a very short Cessation would produce) his Majestie esteems a very considerable Advantage to the Kingdom; and therefore cannot but presse again and again, that whatever is thought doubtfull in the Expressions of the Articles, may (as in an houre it may well be done) be expounded, and whatsoever is excepted at may be debated and concluded, and that Power and Instructions may be given to the Committee to that end, that the miserable effects of War, the effusion of English blood, and desolation of England (untill they can be totally taken away) may by this means be stayed and interrupted.

his Majestie supposes, That when the Committee was last required to desire his Majestie to give a speedy and positive Answer to the first Proposition concerning Disbanding, his Answers in that point (to which no Re-
ply

ply hath been made, and which he hopes by this time have given satisfaction) were not transmitted and received, but Wonders the Houses should presse his Majestie for a speedy and positive Answer, to the first part of their first Proposition concerning Disbanding when to the second part of the very same Proposition, concerning his Return to both Houses of Parliament, they had not given any Power, or Instructions to the Committee, so much as to Treat with his Majestie; And when his Majestie (if his desire of Peace, and of speeding the Treaty in order to that had not been prevalent with him) might with all manner of Justice have delayed to begin to Treat upon one part untill they had been enabled to Treat upon the other; In which point, and for want of which Power from them, the onely stop now remains, his Majesties Answers to both parts of their first Proposition being given in, transmitted, and yet remaining unanswered. To which, untill the Houses shall be at Leisure to make answer, that as little delay in this Treaty, as is possible, may be caused by it, his Majestie desires likewise, That the Committee may be enabled to Treat upon the following Propositions in their severall orders.